Statement

Name of the drug	Accounting Uhit	Production		
		1984-85	1985-86	1986-87
Ethambutol	T	22·93	30.41	19.59
Mebendazole	T	3·39	4·28	17·82
Tinidazole	T	5·82	10·13	16·18
Ampicillin	T	13·61	11·73	15·70
Dexamethasone	Kg.	53.31	51·89	84·86
Sulphamethaxazole	T	6·31	16·00	9·40
Trimethoprim	T	—	2·78	3·87

Reasons for changing DPCO

3403. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for changing the Drug Prices Control Order; 1979;

(b) whether it is a fact that the main provisions relating to price fixation and Drug Prices Equalisation Accounts were challenged in various courts;

(c) if so, whether it is also a fact that all the provisions of 1979 order have been upheld by the courts; and

(d) if so, why retrograde measures have been announced at this stage to sacrifice the interests of the consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) and (d) The details are contained in the book let "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs & Pharmaceutical Industry in India" copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. The measures amply safeguard the interests of the consumers.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Supreme Court in their recent judgment upheld the prices fixed by the Government under the provisions of DPCO, 1979 in the case of M/s. Cyanamid (I) Ltd. and several other companies.

Difference between bulk drug prices and formulation prices

3404. SHRI M. KADHARSHA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the past the formulators made huge unintended benefit due to reduction in bulk drug prices and enjoyed the difference between the purchase price of bulk drugs and price on which formulation price was fixed;

(b) if so, how many such cases came to the notice of the Government;

(c) in how many cases the prices were reduced or difference recovered along with the name of the company, earlier price, revised price and money recovered; and

(d) what measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken to pass on the difference to the consumer in the absence of DPEA?